



Village of South Chicago Heights
Mayor Terry L. Matthews

Annual Consumer Confidence Report

A large, dynamic blue water splash dominates the background, with droplets and ripples creating a sense of motion and purity.

2020



Water Quality Report

Year of 2020

Once again, the South Chicago Heights Water Department is extremely pleased to report to our customers that your drinking water met all United States EPA and State of Illinois drinking water health standards. The South Chicago Heights Water Department vigilantly safeguards your drinking water supply and once again, we are pleased to report to you that we experienced no violations of a contaminant level or any other water quality standards during the year of 2020. This report not only summarizes the quality of water we provided to your home or business during the year of 2020, but also includes details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by other regulatory agencies. At the South Chicago Heights Water Department, we are committed to providing you this information because an informed customer is our best customer.

Should you have any questions about this year's report, a previous year's report, would like to see additional information contained in future reports, or have any other questions concerning your drinking water, please contact Mark A. Martin or Bill Joyce by calling the [Village of South Chicago Heights Water Department at \(708\) 755-7888](tel:7087557888). It is our goal to keep you, our customer, informed about the quality of the drinking water we provide to you and your family day in and day out. We hope you enjoy reading this year's report.

Although South Chicago Heights purchases its Lake Michigan water from our neighbor to the north, Chicago Heights, the water actually originates in Hammond, Indiana. At the Hammond, Indiana Water Filtration Plant the raw (untreated) water is removed from the lake, chemically treated, filtered, tested, and then pumped to the city of Chicago Heights, then to South Chicago Heights. During the year of 2020, the South Chicago Heights Lake Michigan Water Plant pumped approximately **139.385** million gallons of drinking water to its customers. This amount of drinking water represents a decrease of **7.07** million gallons versus the amount of drinking water consumed by our customers during the year of 2019.

Some people who either live or work in South Chicago Heights may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons

with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The United States EPA/Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the [United States EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at: 1-800-426-4791](tel:18004264791).

In addition to the above, drinking water, including bottled water may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and the potential health risks can be obtained by again calling the [United States EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at: 1-800-426-4791](tel:18004264791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it can dissolve naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

2020 Table of Detected Regulated Contaminants

(Collected in 2020 unless otherwise noted)

Definitions of terms that may be used in following tables

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level in a contaminant in drinking water, below which there is no known or expected risk to public health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Level Found: This column represents an average of sample result data collected during the consumer confidence report calendar year. In some cases, it may represent a single sample if only one sample was collected.

Range of Detection: This column represents a range of individual sample results; from lowest to highest that was collected during the consumer confidence report year.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

ND: Not detectable at testing levels.

N/A: Not Applicable.

Units of measure used in tables: ppm= parts per million: ppb= parts per billion: ppt= parts per trillion: Pci/l= picoCurries per liter (measurement of radioactivity): mg/l= milligrams per liter, or parts per million, or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water: ug/l= micrograms per liter, or parts per billion, or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

Possible Contaminants to Water:

Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. South Chicago Heights is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Microbial contaminants,

Microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agriculture, livestock operations and wildlife;

Inorganic contaminants,

Inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic waste water discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming;

Pesticides and herbicides,

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses;

Organic chemical contaminant, Organic chemical contaminant including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants,

Radioactive contaminants which may be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that your tap water is safe to drink, the United States EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits of contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

In addition to the informational section of this Water Quality Report, we have included a water quality table for your review. The table is designed to give you a better picture of the contaminants and the amounts of the contaminants that were detected in your drinking water for the year of 2020. In 2020, as in years past, your drinking water was tested on a regular basis according to the United States EPA and state drinking water health standards. We are committed to providing you with this information because an informed customer is our best customer.

2020 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Lead and Copper: Date Sampled - 2019

Lead MCLG	Lead Action Level (AL)	Lead 90 th Percentile	# Sites Over Lead AL	Copper MCLG	Copper Action Level (AL)	Copper 90 th Percentile	# Sites Over Copper AL	Likely Source Of Contaminants
0	15ppb	<5ppb	0	1.3ppm	1.3ppm	0.303ppm	0	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures; Erosion of natural deposits

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2020	7	3.8 - 7	N/A	60	Ppb	No
Chlorine	2020	0.7	0.26-1.18	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	No
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)	2020	18	0 – 17.5	N/A	80	Ppb	No

Monitoring Data Provided By Hammond, Indiana Water Filtration Plan

During November 2001 the Village of South Chicago Heights began supplying water to its customers from Lake Michigan. Lake Michigan is considered to be a Surface Water Source. The raw water is removed from the lake in Hammond, Indiana at the water filtration plant. After the raw water is removed from the lake it is chemically treated, filtered, tested for contaminants, and pumped into the distribution system.

1. The following contaminants were **Below Detection Level (BDL)** in the Finished Water at the entry point to our distribution system.
 - a. Synthetic Organic Contaminants (SOC'S)
 - b. Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC'S)
 - c. Any Unregulated Contaminants
2. Inorganic Compounds (IOC's) were detected as follows:
 - a. Fluoride ranged from 0.01 to 1.5 mg/l
 - b. Sodium 0.10 mg/l
 - c. Barium 0.021 mg/l
 - d. Nitrogen, Nitrate-Nitrite as (N) 0.39 mg/l
3. Turbidity Levels at the entry point to the Distribution System were as follows:
 - a. 0.04 - 0.15 NTU'S-Tap
 - b. 100% of our samples were equal to or less than 0.30 NTU'S
4. Disinfectant and Disinfection By-Products.
 - a. Disinfectant Residual: 1.1 - 2.2 mg/L
 - b. Total Haloacetic Acids: 4.0 – 11.2 ug/L
 - c. Atrazine: BDL – below detection level of 0.1 ug/l

2020 Violation Summary

No drinking water quality violations for the year of 2020, in the Village of South Chicago Heights.